



THE RETREAT

at Prestonwood

APRIL 28–30, 2025



THE RETREAT

schedule

MONDAY, APRIL 28

3:00–4:00 PM Check-in at Hotel
4:15 PM Shuttle to Plano Campus
4:30–5:00 PM Meet & Greet
and Welcome
(Student Ministry Building Lobby)

5:00–6:00 PM Dinner
(Student Ministry Building)
6:15–7:30 PM General Session 1
Michael Bethany (Chapel)
7:45 PM Shuttle to Hotel

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

8:00 AM Shuttle to Plano Campus
8:15–9:15 AM Breakfast & Worship
Michael Neale
(Orchestra Rehearsal Hall)
9:30–10:30 AM General Session 2
Pastor Jack Graham
(Orchestra Rehearsal Hall)
10:45–11:45 AM Breakout Session 1
NOON–1:00 PM Lunch (Main Street Café)
1:15–2:15 PM General Session 3
Robbie Seay
(Orchestra Rehearsal Hall)

2:30–3:30 PM Breakout Session 2
3:45–4:45 PM Breakout Session 3
4:45 PM Shuttle to Dinner
5:00–6:30 PM Dinner (Legacy Food Hall)
7:00–8:00 PM Night of Worship
Prestonwood Worship
(Choir Rehearsal Hall)
8:15 PM Shuttle to Hotel

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

8:45 AM Shuttle to Church
9:00–9:30 AM Breakfast (Fireside Room)
9:30–10:00 AM Worship
Greg & Janna Long
(Fireside Room)
10:15–11:45 AM General Session 4
Prestonwood Worship Round Table
(Fireside Room)
11:45 AM–NOON Closing Session
(Fireside Room)
NOON Dismiss
12:15 PM Shuttle to Hotel

EXTENDED EXPERIENCE

NOON–1:00 PM Lunch (Main Street Café)
1:00–2:00 PM Church Tour
2:15 PM Shuttle to Hotel
2:15–4:45 PM Free Time
4:45 PM Shuttle to Church
5:00–6:00 PM Dinner (Room A103/105)
6:00–6:30 PM Kids' Worship Choir
6:45–8:00 PM Adult Choir & Media
8:15 PM Dismiss & Shuttle to Hotel

general session SPEAKERS



MICHAEL BETHANY

Michael Bethany is an international speaker, multi-award-winning Christian artist and highly sought-after mentor for worship leaders, artists and creatives. Respected by Christian leaders from around the globe, he is passionate about mentoring worship pastors, creating effective systems for worship departments, and leading congregations in transformational worship experiences. His latest album, *Overflow*, released in partnership with Capitol Rethink, has been nominated for two GMA Dove Awards – Best Gospel Worship Album and Best Gospel Worship Recorded Song of the Year. Michael's online worship experiences have received more than 20 million YouTube views, and his ministry has been featured on prominent industry-leading media outlets such as Daystar Television Network and *CCM Magazine*.



MICHAEL NEALE

As a Dove Award-winning songwriter, national best-selling author, and veteran worship leader and speaker, Michael Neale is influencing a generation of worshippers and creators in the local church. His mission is to help people experience God through songs and stories. His songs have been recorded by artists such as Michael W. Smith; Natalie Grant; Rebecca St. James; Kutless; Anthony Evans; Phillips, Craig & Dean; and Shane & Shane, to name a few. His books include national bestseller *The River*; its sequel, *Into the Canyon*; *The Way of Worship*; and the devotional *Your Great Name*, based on his song by the same title. Michael serves as Pastor of Multi-site and Creative at Champion Forest Church in Houston, Texas, and he is the cofounder of *The Worship Table* and the principal consultant for *Song & Story Creative, LLC*.



DR. JACK GRAHAM

Dr. Jack Graham serves as Senior Pastor of Prestonwood Baptist Church, one of the nation's largest, most dynamic congregations. When Dr. Graham came to Prestonwood in 1989, the 8,000-member congregation responded enthusiastically to his straightforward message and powerful preaching style. Now thriving with more than 60,000 members, Prestonwood continues to grow, reaching throughout the North Texas region. Dr. Graham is a noted author of numerous books, including the latest *The Jesus Book: Reading and Understanding the Bible for Yourself*. Drawing from more than 50 years of ministry, Dr. Graham inspires readers to dive deeper into Scripture and foster a profound connection with God through His Word. His passionate, biblical teaching is also seen and heard across the country and throughout the world on *PowerPoint Ministries*. Through broadcasts, online sermons and e-mail messages, Dr. Graham addresses relevant, everyday issues that are prevalent in our culture and strike a chord with audiences worldwide. In October 2022, the *Bible in a Year with Jack Graham* podcast was launched in partnership with iHeartPodcasts and Pray.com, with a cinematic feel that brings the Bible to life. To date, the podcast has surpassed 82 million downloads. Dr. Graham has served as Honorary Chairman of the National Day of Prayer and has helped lead various national prayer initiatives. He served as President of the Southern Baptist Convention, the largest Protestant denomination in the country with more than 14 million members.



ROBBIE SEAY

Robbie Seay is the EVP of Leader Development + Content at The Worship Initiative. He is widely known for his songwriting, worship leading, and recording career, which still play a big role in his life and ministry. His heart for the church, the music of the church and worship leaders has led him to devote much of his time and energy to mentoring and encouraging young leaders and songwriters as they enter the intersection of worship, ministry and leadership. He lives in Dallas, Texas.



GREG & JANNA LONG

Greg and Janna Long serve as Worship Pastors at Cottonwood Creek Church in Allen, Texas. They also make up half of the three-time Grammy-nominated and American Music Award-winning vocal group *Avalon*. With a deep passion for faith and family, they are dedicated to helping people build a stronger connection to the Lord Jesus Christ through worship.

BREAKOUT

session 1

TUESDAY • 10:45–11:45 AM

worship track

PUBLISHING, DISTRIBUTION & LICENSING: PUBLISHING & RELEASING ORIGINAL MUSIC FROM YOUR CHURCH

Room A110 • Craig Dunnagan

A growing wave of churches are writing and releasing their own music. However, many have not established a strong foundation for a sustainable, healthy and clear model. Every ministry is different, and most ministries should answer some questions before beginning music publishing activities. In this session, we will provide some guiding thoughts about publishing and releasing original recordings and songs. Ample time for Q&A and addressing specific concerns will be provided.

NEXTGEN WORSHIP

Room A113 • Andy Pearson & Kristin Jimenez

Psalm 78:4 declares, “Tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and His might, and the wonders that He has done.” There is no tool more powerful to declare the name of the Lord than worship. We will explore how teaching the coming generations of worshippers has fortified our ministry and our church as a whole. We’ll also discuss how to take your next-generation worship to the next level. Whether you’re interested in getting started or already running with an established program, we’ll explore how to further equip the coming generations spiritually, socially and artistically.

media track

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT & DEVELOPMENT

Connection Room (A210–211) • Bryan Bailey

No matter the size of the ministry, we all rely on volunteers to make things happen each week. So, why don’t we have amazing processes in place to recruit and train them? In this session, we will talk about how to establish culture, pursue excellence, and properly train volunteers to perform at professional-grade standards.

BREAKOUT

session 2

TUESDAY • 2:30–3:30 PM

worship track

WORSHIP PRODUCTION & PLANNING

Room A110 • Jonathan Walker

Join us for a conversation on worship planning for choirs, orchestras and multi-site coordination. We will dive into the process for implementing new songs – from initial planning and pre-production to the stage. This session will equip you with tools to unify your teams, streamline your process, and foster excellent, Spirit-led worship across every environment.

media track

LIVE PRODUCTION

Room A112 • Mike Smith, Justin Anthony, Ted Strange, & Matthew Hughes

Winning production battles *before* "Game Day" – Church production can be hard, but there are things we can do before we even walk in the door on the weekends to make things easier. Let's take a look at some best practices with communication, documentation and preparation that can improve your production and lower your blood pressure!

BREAKOUT

session 3

TUESDAY • 3:45–4:45 PM

worship track

CREATIVE PROCESS

Room A112 • Bryan Bailey, Jonathan Walker & Andy Pearson

Discover a fresh approach to designing creative elements for worship services and productions. Learn how to generate meaningful ideas that fit your ministry context and develop realistic timelines that support your team. Explore how to take blue-sky ideas and transform them into powerful, in-the-room moments. Whether you're crafting visuals, music or immersive experiences, you'll walk away with a practical, inspiring framework to lead your ministries and cultivate creativity.

VOCAL TEAM DEVELOPMENT

Room A110 • Rick Briscoe & Holly McWilliams

Are you leading a team of volunteers – or merely trying to keep up with one? It's easy to focus on schedules and rehearsals, but what about you as a leader? When was the last time you honed your vocal skills or reignited your passion for the sound God placed within you? This workshop focuses on building a strong, healthy vocal team that thrives in community and skill. It also provides a space for you to breathe and remember why you started. Your voice is a gift. It's time to protect, refine, and invite God to breathe life into it for His glory.

media track

CONTENT CREATION: LET'S TALK CONTENT

Room A113 • Bryan Williford

You don't need to be a professional cinematographer to make a lasting impact with your content. In this breakout, we'll have an open, honest dialogue about the real work of content creation in ministry. Drawing from 18 years of experience at Prestonwood Baptist Church, you'll hear stories, lessons learned and practical insights. But more than that, we want to hear from you. Whether you're just getting started or deep in the grind, let's talk about what's working, what's not, and how we can encourage one another to keep creating with purpose.